

REMARKS

Claim rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 17, 23 and 24 have been amended to avoid the objections expressed by the examiner.

Claim rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claim 1 has been amended to better define the physical characteristics of the segments forming the nozzle to avoid any conflict with CH656905 (*Amman*). *Amman* fails to show or suggest a nozzle formed of the plurality of plate-shaped segments arranged with their sides adjacent to each other and configured to define the canalisation recited in the claim. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC § 102 is appropriate and such withdrawal is requested.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 4-13, 15, and 17-23 are patentable on the basis of the patentability of claim 1 as well as novel features recited in the respective claims that further distinguish the claimed subject matter over the prior art of record, including *Amman*.

Amendments to specification

The specification is amended to correct spelling errors or to improve the description consistent with the original disclosure. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments and the examiner is request to review each amendment to the specification to confirm that they do not introduce new matter.

Application No.: 10/527,964
Examiner: MUROMOTO JR., Robert H.
Art Unit: 3765

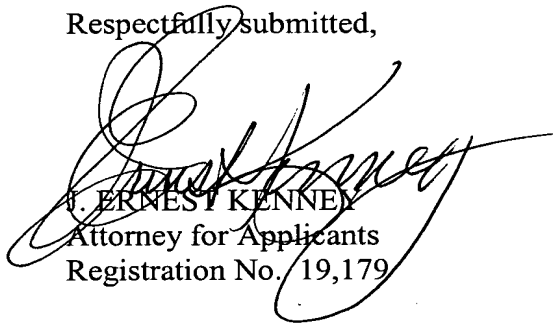
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that this application is now fully in condition for allowance and the same is respectfully requested. If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone conference with applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number shown below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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